



## **PHYSICAL DISABILITIES WAIVER**

### **Renewal Executive Summary, January 2021**

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#### **Introduction**

Utah's 1915 (c) Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Physical Disabilities Waiver expires June 30, 2021. In order to continue operations of this waiver, the Department of Health acting as the State Medicaid Agency (SMA) must submit a waiver renewal application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) by March 31, 2021.

The SMA is the single state agency that retains administrative authority of the Physical Disabilities Waiver. The Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD) under the Department of Human Services (DHS) provides the day-to-day administrative activities for Physical Disabilities Waiver participants.

#### **Drafting Process**

The SMA together with a workgroup has prepared an initial draft of the waiver renewal. The workgroup was comprised of advocates, providers and State staff who convened to review the initial draft and provide input. A final draft will be created as a result of the feedback provided. We anticipate a public comment period beginning at the end of January.

#### **Public Input**

Initial public input was sought by utilizing the workgroup process described above as well as additional public input in the following ways:

- Presenting to the following groups: Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC) in January 2021; and Utah Indian Health Advisory Board (UIHAB) in February 2021.
- Posting the draft online and providing a 30-day public comment period. Notification of public comment will also be completed in the newspaper.
- Reviewing and responding to comments after the 30-day public comment period and making decisions about further amending the waiver to incorporate additional comments received.

The final draft will be completed by the end of February. Final review, approval and submission of the waiver application will be completed by the State Medicaid Director.

## Overview of Proposed Changes

- Service Modifications
  - Addition of Non-Medical Transportation through UTA (Para-transit and monthly passes).
- Quality Improvement
  - Quality Improvement performance measures have been revised to better align with waiver Assurances and Sub-Assurances (throughout document).
  - Terminology/grammar has been corrected to reflect changes in agencies/provider designations (throughout document).
  - Critical incident processes revised to reflect current processes.

Questions and comments about the draft waiver application are welcome and can be submitted to:

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